



04-15-04

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Request  
For  
Continued Examination (RCE)  
Transmittal

Address to:  
Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	10/006,796
Filing Date	December 4, 2001
First Named Inventor	Eija M. Pirhonen (et al.)
Art Unit	1615
Examiner Name	Micah P. Young
Attorney Docket Number	01942-00007

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

## 1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. 1.114

Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a.  Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

i.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
ii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

b.  Enclosed

i.  Amendment/Reply  
ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)  
iv.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Miscellaneous

a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i) required)

b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No.19-0733

i.  RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e)  
ii.  Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. 1.136 and 1.17)  
iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

b.  Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print /Type)	John P. Iwanicki	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	34,628
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Signature		Date	4-14-04
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## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below:

Name (Print /Type)	Laurie Hall
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Signature		Date	April 14, 2004
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

EXPRESS MAIL RECEIPT NO. EV 396913169 US

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01 FC:2801 385.00 DA



PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 01942-00007

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Eija Marjut Pirhonen, Timo Pohjonen, and )  
Jan Nieuwenhuis )  
Serial No.: 10/006,796 )  
Filed: December 4, 2001 )  
Title: BIODEGRADABLE IMPLANT AND )  
METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING ONE )

Examiner:  
Micah Paul Young

Art Unit: 1615

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Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop RCE  
P.O. Box 1450  
Arlington, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed January 14, 2004. Kindly reconsider the application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

**Amendments** to the claims are reflected in the claim listing, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.



PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 01942-00007

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Eija Marjut Pirhonen, Timo Pohjonen, and ) Examiner: )  
Jan Nieuwenhuis ) Micah Paul Young )  
Serial No.: 10/006,796 ) Art Unit: 1615 )  
Filed: December 4, 2001 )  
Title: BIODEGRADABLE IMPLANT AND )  
METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING ONE )

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

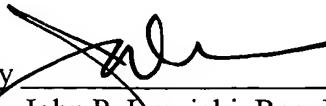
In regard to the above identified application, we are transmitting herewith the attached:

1. RCE Request,
2. Amendment and Response to Final Office Action, and
3. Return postcard.

With respect to additional fees, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the required fee of \$385.00, and any additional fees or credit overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 14, 2004

By   
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